

The Honorable Barbara J. Rothstein

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

NUHEARA IP PTY LTD and NUHEARA  
LIMITED,

## **Plaintiffs and Counterclaim-Defendants,**

V.

ANKER INNOVATIONS LIMITED,  
FANTASIA TRADING LLC d/b/a  
ANKERDIRECT, and POWER MOBILE  
LIFE, LLC,

## Defendants and Counterclaim-Plaintiffs.

Case No. 2:20-cv-01161-BJR

# **STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

## 1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order.

The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under seal.

1       The terms “material” or “document” used herein encompass any information discoverable  
2 in the proceeding, whether tangible or intangible, as stored in any medium.

3       2. **“CONFIDENTIAL” AND “ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” MATERIAL**

4       2.1 “Confidential” Material. “Confidential” material shall include the following documents  
5 and tangible things produced or otherwise exchanged:

- 6             (a) confidential technical documents, including schematic diagrams, engineering  
7                 drawings, engineering notebooks, specifications, formulations, research notes and  
8                 materials, technical analysis, and any other non-public materials related to  
9                 technology;
- 10            (b) confidential and proprietary information related to a party’s products or services,  
11                 or products or services a party has under development;
- 12            (c) confidential or proprietary source code, software, platforms, or applications;
- 13            (d) confidential financial and marketing information, including financial projections  
14                 or competitive analyses;
- 15            (e) confidential business plans, including plans for product or service expansions,  
16                 market and industry forecasts, and other business analysis;
- 17            (f) confidential price lists and pricing information;
- 18            (g) confidential agreements or terms, licensing policies, or other related documents;
- 19            (h) confidential customer or consumer information, including customer lists and  
20                 consumer data;
- 21            (i) personal financial information, personal health information, or personal  
22                 identification numbers (“PINs”);
- 23            (j) confidential internal business communications or notes;
- 24            (k) information obtained from a third party pursuant to a non-disclosure agreement;  
25                 and

1                             (1) any information that is subject to federal, state, or foreign data protection laws or  
2                             government/state secrecy laws, including but not limited to, the Law of the  
3                             People's Republic of China on Guarding State Secrets (adopted in 1988, revised  
4                             2010), the Law of the People's Republic of China on Accounting Archives  
5                             Management Measures law, the Anti-Unfair Competition Law of the People's  
6                             Republic of China; and the General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679) of the  
7                             European Union.

8                             2.2 "Attorneys' Eyes Only" Material. "Attorneys' Eyes Only" material shall include the  
9                             documents and tangible things listed above that are of such a commercially-sensitive nature that  
10                           the disclosure of which to persons or parties unaffiliated with the disclosing party would likely  
11                           cause harm or competitive disadvantage to the disclosing party.

12                             2.3 Good Faith Designation. In determining whether information should be designated as  
13                             "Confidential" or "Attorney's Eyes Only," each party agrees to use such designations only if that  
14                             party believes in good faith that the information must be protected from disclosure as provided  
15                             herein.

16                             3.        SCOPE

17                             The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only Confidential and Attorneys'  
18                             Eyes Only material (as defined above), but also: (1) any information copied or extracted from  
19                             Confidential or Attorneys' Eyes Only material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations  
20                             of Confidential or Attorneys' Eyes Only material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or  
21                             presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal Confidential or Attorneys' Eyes Only  
22                             material.

23                             However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in  
24                             the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

1   4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

2       4.1    Basic Principles. A receiving party may use designated material that is disclosed or  
 3 produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting,  
 4 defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Designated material may be disclosed only to the  
 5 categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement. Designated material  
 6 must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures  
 7 that access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

8       4.2    Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered  
 9 by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any  
 10 “Confidential” material only to:

- 11           (a)   the receiving party’s outside counsel of record in this action, as well as  
 12                   employees of counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the  
 13                   information for this litigation;
- 14           (b)   the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of the  
 15                   receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this  
 16                   litigation;
- 17           (c)   experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this  
 18                   litigation and who:
  - 19                   i.   have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”  
 20                           (Exhibit A);
  - 21                   ii.   are not otherwise currently, regularly, or expecting to be employed by  
 22                           any party; and
  - 23                   iii.   have been qualified under this agreement in accordance with the process  
 24                           set forth in Section 11;
- 25           (d)   the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

- (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of designated material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging service instructs the service not to disclose any designated material to third parties and to immediately return all originals and copies of any designated material;
  - (f) witnesses in the action to whom the parties previously agreed disclosure is reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);
  - (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;
  - (h) an employee, officer or director of the party who designated the information.

4.3 Disclosure of “ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any “Attorneys’ Eyes Only” material only to those individuals listed in Section 4.2(a), (c)-(h).

**4.4     Filing Designated Material.** Before filing designated material or discussing or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating party, in accordance with Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(A), to determine whether citation, discussion, or reference to the specific confidential information is necessary to the filing and, if so, can be minimized, whether the designating party will remove the designation, whether the document can be redacted, or whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. During the meet and confer process, the designating party must identify the basis for sealing the specific confidential information at issue, and the filing party shall include this basis in its motion to seal, along with any objection to sealing the information at issue. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the

1 procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks  
 2 permission from the court to file material under seal. A party who seeks to maintain the  
 3 confidentiality of its information must satisfy the requirements of Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(B),  
 4 even if it is not the party filing the motion to seal. Failure to satisfy this requirement will result in  
 5 the motion to seal being denied, in accordance with the strong presumption of public access to the  
 6 Court's files.

7 **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

8       5.1     Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each party  
 9 or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must take  
 10 reasonable measures to limit any such designation to specific information or material that qualifies  
 11 under the appropriate standards. The parties will work in good faith to limit designations to only  
 12 that information or material that warrants protection, including by taking this provision into  
 13 account when negotiating their ESI Agreement.

14       Designations that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an  
 15 improper purpose (*e.g.*, to unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to  
 16 impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party to  
 17 sanctions.

18       If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it designated for  
 19 protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly notify all other parties  
 20 that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

21       5.2     Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this  
 22 agreement, or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for  
 23 protection under this agreement must be clearly so designated before or when the material is  
 24 disclosed or produced.

25           (a)    Information in documentary form: When information is produced in  
 26 documentary form (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents and deposition exhibits, but excluding

1 transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), the designating party must affix  
2 the word(s) “CONFIDENTIAL” or “ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” to each page that contains  
3 confidential material. If this is not technologically feasible (e.g., because the file is produced  
4 natively), the designating party must affix the word(s) “CONFIDENTIAL” or  
5 “CONFIDENTIAL—ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” to the file’s placeholder, or otherwise  
6 designate the file name.

7                   (b)     Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: Any party  
8 or non-party may, within fifteen days after receiving the final transcript of the deposition or other  
9 pretrial proceeding, designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits thereto, as Confidential or  
10 Attorneys’ Eyes Only. Up until the expiration of this fifteen-day period, the deposition testimony  
11 shall be treated as “ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” If a party or non-party desires to protect  
12 designated information at trial, the issue should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

13                   (c)     Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place  
14 on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word(s)  
15 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” If only a portion or portions of the  
16 information or item warrant protection, the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify  
17 the protected portion(s).

18        5.3     Inadvertent Failures to Designate. An inadvertent failure to designate qualified  
19 material, information, or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party’s right to  
20 secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon detection of the failure to properly  
21 designate material, the designating party shall promptly provide replacement material which shall  
22 bear the correct designation, and the receiving party shall destroy the original material and make  
23 reasonable efforts to ensure that the replacement material is treated in accordance with the  
24 provisions of this agreement.

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1   6.    CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

2       6.1    Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge either designation of  
 3   confidentiality at any time. A party does not waive its right to challenge either confidentiality  
 4   designation by electing not to mount a challenge immediately after the original designation is  
 5   disclosed.

6       6.2    Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute  
 7   regarding confidentiality designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding  
 8   designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in a declaration  
 9   or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer conference with other  
 10   affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action. The certification must list  
 11   the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith effort to confer requires a face-  
 12   to-face meeting or a telephone or video conference.

13       6.3    Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court  
 14   intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under Local  
 15   Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden of  
 16   persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and those  
 17   made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on  
 18   other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall continue to maintain  
 19   the material in question pursuant to its original designation unless/until the court orders otherwise.

20   7.    PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER  
 21   LITIGATION

22       If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels  
 23   disclosure of any information or items designated in this action, that party must:

24           (a)    promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of the  
 25   subpoena or court order;

1                             (b)      notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the  
 2 other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this  
 3 agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement; and

4                             (c)      cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by  
 5 the designating party whose designated material may be affected.

6        8.      UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

7                             If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed designated  
 8 material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving  
 9 party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures,  
 10 (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material, (c) inform the  
 11 person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this agreement,  
 12 and (d) request that such person or persons execute the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be  
 13 Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

14       9.      INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED  
 15 MATERIAL

16                             When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently  
 17 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the  
 18 receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). Pursuant to  
 19 Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), the disclosure or production of information subject to the  
 20 attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product protection is not a waiver of that privilege  
 21 or protection in this case or in any other federal or state court proceeding.

22       10.     NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

23                             Within 60 days after the termination of this action (i.e., when any order finally closing the  
 24 case issues), including all appeals (i.e., when any final mandate issues), each receiving party must,  
 25 at the producing party's election, either (a) return all designated material to the producing party,  
 26 including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof or (b) destroy all designated material from the

1 producing party and provide certification to counsel of record of the producing party of such  
2 destruction.

3 Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all  
4 documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence,  
5 deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work  
6 product, even if such materials contain designated material.

7 The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a  
8 designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

9 **11. EXPERT QUALIFICATION**

10 In order for an independent expert or a consultant to be permitted access to information  
11 designated under this agreement, the party wishing to provide such access must notify the  
12 designating party in writing at least seven (7) calendar days before allowing such access (or such  
13 shorter period to which the designating party agrees in writing). The identification of an expert  
14 or consultant pursuant to this agreement shall not constitute a waiver of attorney work-product  
15 protection or the attorney-client privilege.

16 (a) *Contents of the Written Notification:* Such written notice shall include the  
17 following:

- 18 (i) the name of the expert or consultant;  
19 (ii) the present employer and title of the expert or consultant;  
20 (iii) an executed copy of the form attached hereto as Exhibit A;  
21 (iv) a current curriculum vitae that lists all employers and clients to whom the  
22 expert or consultant has provided services in the past four (4) years;  
23 (v) a listing of all cases in which the expert or consultant has testified as an  
24 expert at trial or by deposition within the last four (4) years; and  
25 (vi) a listing of engagements by the expert or consultant for a party to this  
26 action on any matter substantially related to the subject matter of this case.

1                   (b) *Objections:* Before the seven (7) calendar day period from the receipt of the written  
2 notification has expired, the designating party may object in writing to the disclosure of  
3 designated information to the expert or consultant in question. If no such written objection is  
4 made within the seven (7) calendar day period, then the expert or consultant shall be deemed  
5 qualified under the agreement and such designated information may be disclosed to the expert or  
6 consultant pursuant to this agreement. If an objection is made, such designated information shall  
7 not be disclosed to the expert or consultant until the objection is resolved. To resolve the  
8 objection, the parties must first meet and confer in good faith to attempt to reach an agreement or  
9 accommodation concerning the objection. If the objection is not resolved by meet and confer,  
10 the objecting party shall file a motion with respect to its objection within seven (7) calendar days  
11 after service of the notice of written objection to disclosure. If the objecting party does not file  
12 the appropriate motion with the Court within that time, or within any additional time as may be  
13 granted by the Court or agreed to by the parties, the objecting party waives its right to challenge  
14 the disclosure of such designated information to the identified expert or consultant, and the  
15 identified expert or consultant shall be deemed qualified under this agreement for purposes of  
16 receiving designated materials. If a motion challenging disclosure is timely filed, an identified  
17 expert or consultant shall not be provided access to any such designated information until such  
18 motion is resolved.

19                  12. ADVICE OF COUNSEL

20                  Nothing in this agreement shall bar or otherwise restrict any attorney from relying upon  
21 his or her examination of information designated under this agreement in rendering advice to his  
22 or her client with respect to this matter. In rendering such advice or in otherwise communicating  
23 with his or her client, however, the attorney shall not disclose the content (in whole or in part) of  
24 any such designated information, unless the client is permitted to receive such information  
25 pursuant to this agreement.

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1   13. NON-PARTY DISCOVERY

2           In the event discovery is taken of any person or entity not a party to the lawsuit, such  
3 person or entity shall be provided with a copy of this agreement and may avail his/her/itself of its  
4 protections by designating information in accordance herewith.

5           IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

6           DATED: April 2, 2021

By: s/ Benjamin J. Byer

7                   Benjamin J. Byer, WSBA #38206  
8                   Lauren B. Rainwater, WSBA #43625  
9                   DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP  
10                  920 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300  
11                  Seattle, Washington 98104-1610  
12                  Email: benbyer@dwt.com  
13                  Email: laurenrainwater@dwt.com

14                  Martha Jahn Snyder, *pro hac vice*  
15                  Anita Marie Boor, *pro hac vice*  
16                  QUARLES & BRADY LLP  
17                  33 East Main Street, Suite 900  
18                  Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
19                  Email: martha.snyder@quarles.com  
20                  Email: anita.boor@quarles.com

21                  *Attorneys for Plaintiffs NUHEARA IP PTY LTD*  
22                  *and NUHEARA LIMITED*

23           DATED: April 2, 2021

By: s/ Diana M. Rutowski

24                   Melanie D. Phillips, WSBA # 48945  
25                  Diana M. Rutowski, *pro hac vice*  
26                  Yufeng (Ethan) Ma, *pro hac vice*  
                 ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP  
                 701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5600  
                 Seattle, Washington 98104-7097  
                 Email: mphillips@orrick.com  
                 Email: drutowski@orrick.com  
                 Email: yma@orrick.com

*Attorneys for Defendants ANKER INNOVATIONS*  
                 *LIMITED, FANTASIA TRADING LLC D/B/A*  
                 *ANKERDIRECT, AND POWER MOBILE LIFE,*  
                 *LLC*

1 PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED  
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3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any  
4 documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other federal or  
state proceeding, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege applicable to those  
documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or any other  
privilege or protection recognized by law.

5  
6 DATED: April 5, 2021

7  
8 The Honorable Barbara J. Rothstein  
9 United States District Court Judge  
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## EXHIBIT A

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name], of \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington in the case of Nuheara IP Pty Ltd and Nuheara Limited v. Anker Innovations Limited, *et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-01161-BJR. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

13 I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the  
14 Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective  
15 Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

16 || Date: \_\_\_\_\_

17 | City and State where sworn and signed:

18 Printed name:

19 || Signature: